

## Testimony on HB5078 and HB5331

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Honorable members of the Education Committee:

I am mother to three daughters; two I homeschooled and are now in college, while my youngest is now in 5<sup>th</sup> grade at public school. I am very concerned over how the common core standards are changing her education, and not for the better. I found her teachers from last year knew very little about common core and yet they had to start implementing these standards just a few months later. I am also concerned about the people who put together the standards and it is now well known that it was not educators, but the NGA, CCSSO and Achieve, Inc. Not to mention the influence of the Gates Foundation. None of which are qualified to put together anything having never spent time actually teaching our children in a classroom. I also think that parents should have been more informed as it is our children in those classrooms as well as our tax dollars being wasted on these new 'standards'.

I have watched my daughter go from loving school to being overwhelmed and just wanting to get through the day. I am not always able to help her given the 'new' way of doing things. I do not like the way we are trying to push our kids to be "industry ready". I do not like the questioners given to my daughter to 'help' her find what industry she should pursue. She is 11. She does not need to be industry ready; she needs to learn the basics. We also know that these standards do not get kids ready for STEM careers, yet CC is touted as 'rigorous'.

I also disagree with the hours of standardized testing that my daughter would have to sit through. A standardized test does not tell you what you need to know about my daughter. It does tell whether or not she tests well. And to judge teachers based on whether or not a child tests well is absurd and unfair. I also am concerned about the data mining as well as product placement that have been uncovered in other states concerning common core standards and the testing involved.

In the end, there is no actual proof that common core standards are going to help improve anything for our children. My daughter should not be one of many 'guinea pigs' testing out this new set of standards.

I ask that you take a second look at the bills being introduced today. They should be revised and better structured to actually do something for our teachers and our students as well as give the local schools more control over what is being taught.